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Community *notes*

2015 Police Pace

The Howard County Police Foundation invites you to its Police Pace, a 5K Race and one-mile Fun Walk on Sunday, September 13. The annual charitable event takes place at Howard County's beautiful Centennial Park. Register online at <http://policepace.com/> as an individual or family (up to five members).

Activities include: Face Painting, Balloons and more for kids; Police Displays including Motorcycles; Police K9 units and the Swat team; Race T-shirts; Performance Awards; and Random Prizes. Lunch is provided by Outback Steakhouse.

Theatre Classes

Columbia Center for Theatrical Arts is offering classes for students this Fall.

The After School Programs take place at: Gorman Crossing Elementary, Ilchester, Pointers Run, Swansfield, Waverly and Northfield Elementary Schools and begin at the end of September. Register [online](#) through Howard County Recreations and Parks website (select the Music & Theatre Arts category). Click [here](#) for the 2015 Fall Guide.

CCTA's Saturday Programs begin September 26. They are:

- Tots on Broadway: 9:00 - 9:45 a.m. for ages 3-5
- Bright Lights on Broadway (Special Needs Program): 10:00-11:00 a.m. for ages 8-18
- Kids on Broadway: 11:15-12:30 p.m. for ages 6-12

Classes are held at Saint John's Parish Day School in Ellicott City, MD. Click [here](#) for the Saturday Programs Online Registration Form.

Greeting

I hope that you have enjoyed a wonderful summer. As we move into a new season, many activities begin again in our community. I've highlighted a few things you may find informative or enjoyable.

May Kay

Develop Your Artistic Talent

Registration has begun for Howard County Arts Council's (HCAC) fall educational programs at the Howard County Center for the Arts (HCCA) in Ellicott City. HCAC offers classes and workshops for ages five to adult. Fall art programs, open to the public, begin the week of September 14, 2015.

A range of media and topics are offered including Saturday Art Studio, Fiber Fantasy, and Dive Into Acting for kids and Intro to Drawing & Composition and Acrylic Painting for teens and adults. Ongoing weekly drop-in sessions for drawing and painting from portrait and life models are also available.

Registration and full class listings are available on HCAC's website, www.hocoarts.org. Class brochures are available for pick-up at the Howard County Center for the Arts; or call 410-313-ARTS (2787) to request to have one mailed. Howard County Arts Council programs are subject to minimum and maximum numbers of students; early registration is recommended.

Free English Classes

City of Hope Church will offer free English classes for speakers of other languages on Wednesdays starting September 9 - December 16, 7:15 - 8:45 p.m. Classes will cover conversational English for beginner, intermediate and advanced English speakers.

Students may enroll any Wednesday at 7:15 p.m. throughout the program. Classes will take place at City of Hope Church in the lower level of the Stonehouse Community Center in the Long Reach Village Center at 8775 Cloudleap Court, Columbia. Classes are free, but textbooks cost \$25. To learn more, contact Stephanie Aldrich at mcneillsj1@gmail.com.

Labor Day Holiday Observances

Howard County Government offices, courts, animal shelter, senior centers and the landfill will be closed on Monday, September 7, in observance of the Labor Day holiday. The County's [holiday "slide" schedule](#) will be in effect for trash, recycling, yard trim & food scraps collection. Some Recreation & Parks facilities will be closed; others will be open. The Regional Transportation Agency (RTA) will operate on a "Sunday" schedule. For more information on RTA, call 1-800-270-9553 or visit www.transitrt.com. All parking regulations and fees will be in effect. The 9-1-1 Center, Police and Fire departments remain staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week. For emergencies, call 9-1-1. For non-emergencies, please call 410-313-2200.

Closed on Monday, September 7

County Government Offices
Courts
Animal Shelter
Senior Centers
Landfill and all trash and recycling services
Cedar Lane Activity Room
Gary J. Arthur Community Center
North Laurel Community Center
County Historic Sites
Kiwanis-Wallas Hall
Meadowbrook Athletic Center
Robinson Nature Center
Schooley Mill Activity Room

Open on Monday, September 7

County Parks
Roger Carter Community Center
RTA will operate on a "Sunday" schedule

County offices will re-open at regular business hours on Tuesday, September 8.

Coffee With A Cop

The Howard County Police Department invites you to its next "Coffee with a Cop" on Thursday, September 3, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. at the Lisbon Town Grill. There isn't an agenda; just an opportunity to meet informally with our Police officers. For more information, please call 410-313-2207 or send an email to HCPDOutreach@howardcountymd.gov.

Beware of Online Employment Offers

Posting your resume or CV online can be useful in finding a job, but remember that con artists, as well as legitimate employers, can access your information.

A Howard County job seeker recently got an e-mail from a would-be employer who stated they had reviewed his resume, thought he might qualify for one of their vacancies and asked if he would participate in an online interview. After responding to a long series of questions, the applicant was told he qualified and was offered the job. He was given details about pay and benefits and then told that to do the job he would need to buy specific equipment and software from the company's vendor. The company would send him a check to cover the purchase and provide him with a signing bonus. Luckily, this job seeker realized that this was a "fake check" scam. If he had deposited the check, he would have learned that the check sent to him was fake, long after he paid money to the bogus vendor.

Protect yourself from employment scams!

Exercise caution if you hear from a potential employer online, especially if you did not submit an application to that company.

If you are offered a job online, contact the company's Human Resources Department - using contact information you find yourself - to find out if the offer is real. Con artists often use company names that sound similar to reputable companies or pose as representatives of those companies.

Don't give your Social Security number, bank account number or other personal information to anyone online until you have confirmed their identity. Con artists can make their websites and e-mail look like the real thing.

Beware of job offers that require you to purchase equipment or software with the promise of reimbursement.

Fake checks are also used in many other types of scams. No legitimate company asks you to deposit a check and send money back. Any time you are asked to do this, you can be sure it's a scam.

For information on this and other consumer topics visit the Howard County Office of Consumer Affairs [website](#) or to obtain these tips in an alternative format, call Consumer Affairs at (410)313-6420.

Family Finance Fun

Guidewell Financial Solutions offers a game series to teach the whole family about personal finances. Visit the [website](#) for a list of the games and apps. Have fun, learn about responsible money management and let's teach our kids about good financial choices.

News from Howard County Arts Council

The Howard County Arts Council will host two exhibits September 4—October 16. *Vertex* features artists Michael Hough, Haeley Kyong, Laura Petrovich-Cheney, and Robert Sibbison working with shape, line, and structure through painting, sculpture, and assemblage. *Piece by Piece* exhibits collages created from found images by Travis Childers and nature-inspired art quilts by Dominie Nash. To learn more, visit the [Exhibits](#) webpage.

Discover and explore Howard County's local visual arts spaces during Road to the Arts weekend, September 18–20. Participating galleries will host receptions and exhibits throughout the weekend beginning Friday, September 18 at 6pm with our Annual Meeting and Grant Awards Ceremony at the Center for the Arts. The Road to the Arts map also includes all 13 ARTsites locations:

You're Doing Great by Zac Benson – East Columbia Branch, Howard County Library System

Symbiosis by Jeff Chyatte – Aida Bistro, Corporate Office Properties Trust

Chameleon by David Friedheim & Trisha Kyner – George Howard Building, Howard County Government

Blue Trees & Sky by Cathrin Hoskinson – North Laurel Community Center, Howard County Recreation & Parks

Metamorphosis by Hanna Jubran – Gary J. Arthur Community Center, Howard County Recreation & Parks

The Artists at Work by Edward Kidera – Columbia Art Center, Long Reach Village Center

Aubergine by Jan Kirsh – Howard County Tourism Welcome Center

Chile Pepper 2 by Jan Kirsh – James and Anne Robinson Nature Center

Sea Glade by Cathy Perry – Horowitz Visual and Performing Arts Center, Howard Community College

Wind Song by Bob Turan – The Arc of Howard County

Square Dance by Bob Turan – Howard County General Hospital

Fork, Knife & Spoon Sun by Andrew Yff – Howard County Library System, Central Branch

Global Marker by Glenn Zwegardt – Wincopin Lakeside Building, Kincade, LLC

Visit the Arts Council's [Exhibits page](#) to download the map.

Happening Near You...

Author, environmentalist and community activist, Ned Tillman invites you to join him as he leads walks in some of Howard County's beautiful natural habitat. As Ned indicated in a recent post, he loves to walk "through the woods, along streams and around lakes because there is so much to see and discover."

- September 10 at Jackson Pond — nature connectivity and why we have so much wildlife. Meet at Phelps Luck Neighborhood Center, 5355 Phelps Luck Drive.

- September 24 at Lake Kittamaqundi — enhancing human connectivity as Columbia grows. Meet by the People Tree down at the Lakefront Plaza, 10221 Wincopin Circle.

- October 15 in the Middle Patuxent Watershed — explore the streams and woodlands of River Hill. Meet at River Hill Pool, 6330 Trotter Road.

October 29 at Wilde Lake — urban ecology around our oldest village. Meet at the boathouse off Hyla Brook Road.

The walks begin at 10:00 a.m. Registration is not required but is encouraged by emailing

Open.Space@ColumbiaAssociation.org or calling CA's Open Space Management Division at 410-312-6330.

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It's a busy month in the Maryland Science Center's Shed as the kids go back to school, do some structural engineering, create cool string art and explore the world of simple machines. Here's the lineup of activities planned for the next month:

Make Your Own School Supplies: August 31 - September 7

Design and Build Inventive Structures: September 12 – 18

Geoboards and String Art: September 19 – 25

Chain Reactions and Simple Machines: September 26 - October 2

All activities are included with paid admission. For more information, visit the [website](#).

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The Columbia Festival of the Arts' Fall Festival, British Invasion, takes place October 2 – 4. Check out the lineup and purchase your tickets today [online](#) through the Festival's website or by visiting its page on [EventBrite](#).



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